

24 January 1986

NOTE FOR: Hal Ford  
Vice Chairman, National Intelligence Council

FROM: George Kolt  
National Intelligence Officer for Europe

SUBJECT: Hungarian Estimate

HQ

1. Since you last saw this estimate we have:

- Revised the Key Judgments to make them more punchy (Kate, Dennis and I all found your proposed Key Judgments too stark -- which did not impede us from borrowing heavily from them in order to come up with something which I think will be acceptable to both you and us).
- Placed the major discussion of the succession under variables (paras 47-50).
- Warned, in paragraph 57, that our already pessimistic scenario may still be too optimistic. At the same time we have not labeled this an alternative scenario because we believe the chances of this happening of really minimal and having alternative scenarios I and II would thus amount to the creation of an artificial sandwich.
- Revised paragraphs 64 to 66 to treat more fully the complexity of Hungary's evolution for Washington and Moscow.

  
George Kolt

Distribution:

1 - VC/NIC/Ford  
1 - VC/NIC/Fuller  
1 - NIO/EUR chrono w/o  
1 - NIO/EUR develop  
NIO/EUR/GKOLT/sb1 [redacted] 24JAN86

STAT